

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GABORO 00803 181321Z

43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 INR-07 (ISO) W

----- 086018

R 181130Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6699

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

RUEHSXAMEMBASSY PRETORIA 2118

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GABORONE 0803

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (SULLIVAN, REV. LEON H.

SUBJECT: REV. LEON SULLIVAN'S VISIT TO BOTSWANA

REF: STATE 129545

1. REV. LEON H. SULLIVAN, FOUNDER-CHAIRMAN OF OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTERS INTERNATIONAL, WAS RECEIVED WITH ENTHUSIASM DURING HIS VISIT JUNE 16-17 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE OICI PROJECTS IN BOTSWANA. REV. SULLIVAN MET WITH VICE-PRESIDENT MASIRE AND MINISTER OF LABOR AND HOME AFFAIRS KHARI, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR. REV. SULLIVAN ALSO MET WITH PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MANNATHOKO AND THE BOTSWANA INTERIM OICI COMMITTEE UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF FESUS MOGAE, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING. SULLIVAN VISITED THE BEDU SMALL ENTERPRISE ESTATES IN GABORONE AND MOCHUDI AND HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CHAT WITH GENERAL MANAGER OF THE BOTSWANA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, RALPH STEPHENS. AMBASSADOR HOSTED DINNER IN REV. SULLIVAN'S HONOR WITH VICE-PRESIDENT MASIRE AND MINISTER KHARI AS PRINCIPAL GUESTS. SULLIVAN WAS ACCOMPANIED ON HIS TRIP BY OICI DIRECTOR VAL DIALLO AND REV. ROY A. ALLEN OF OIC DETROIT CENTER.

2. IN ONE-HOUR MEETING WITH VICE-PRESIDENT MASIRE, REV. SULLIVAN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GABORO 00803 181321Z

REVIEWED THE BACKGROUND OF OIC. HE TOLD THE VICE-PRESIDENT THAT

ESSENTIAL PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT WAS TO ENSURE THAT OICI PROJECTS WOULD BE WELCOMED IN BOTSWANA. HE SAID THE OIC SURVEY TEAM HAD CONCLUDED THAT PROJECTS WOULD NOT ONLY BE FEASIBLE IN BOTSWANA BUT WOULD BE SUPPORTED HERE.

3. VICE-PRESIDENT MASIRE RESPONDED WITH A COGENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PRESENTATION OF SERIOUS MANPOWER CONSTRAINTS ON BOTSWANA'S DEVELOPMENT; HE ASSURED REV. SULLIVAN THAT OICI PROJECTS WOULD BE WELCOMED BY PRESIDENT KHAMA, GOB AND PEOPLE OF BOTSWANA. VICE-PRESIDENT STRESSED THAT THE SHORTAGE OF MIDDLE-LEVEL MANPOWER IN PARTICULAR WAS A MAJOR IMPEDIMENT IN MOVING FORWARD WITH DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS UNDER THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND IN IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS TO ATTRACT PRIVATE CAPITAL INVESTMENT. THE VICE-PRESIDENT THOUGHT DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLED LABOR AND SMALL-SCALE ENTERPRISES WOULD HAVE BACKWARD AND FORWARD LINKAGE EFFECTS AND THUS GENERATE MORE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

4. THE VICE-PRESIDENT NOTED THAT CONTINUED HEAVY RELIANCE ON EXPATRIATES FOR MIDDLE-LEVEL MANPOWER WOULD CAUSE POLITICAL PROBLEMS. HE SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT EXPATRIATE CARPENTERS AND PLUMBERS WERE PAID HIGHER WAGES THAN THEIR LOCAL BOTSWANA COUNTERPARTS; THIS CREATED RESENTMENT AND INDUCED INTERNAL PRESSURE FOR MODIFICATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INCOMES POLICY.

5. THE VICE-PRESIDENT CONCLUDED HIS PRESENTATION BY REITERATING THAT OIC WOULD BE WELCOME IN BOTSWANA. HE "WONDERED WHY REV. SULLIVAN HAD NOT COME TEN YEARS EARLIER".

6. PERMANENT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MANNATHOKO BRIEFED REV. SULLIVAN ON THE GOB EXCHANGES WITH GENERAL MOTORS SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD. ABOUT ESTABLISHING AN ASSEMBLY PLANT FOR AN AUTOMOBILE ESPECIALLY DEVELOPED BY GENERAL MOTORS IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR ROAD CONDITIONS IN COUNTRIES SUCH AS BOTSWANA, LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND. MANNATHOKO MADE CLEAR THAT THE GOB WAS KEENLY INTERESTED IN ASSEMBLY PLANT AND THAT THE BALL WAS NOT IN GENERAL MOTOR'S COURT. REV. SULLIVAN LISTENED WITH INTEREST AND TOOK DETAILED NOTES. REV. SULLIVAN NOTED THAT HE WAS ONLY ONE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GENERAL MOTORS PARENT COMPANY IN THE UNITED STATES; HE LEFT THE IMPRESSION EFFORTS WOULD BE MADE TO ENCOURAGE POSITIVE ACTION BY GM.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 GABORO 00803 181321Z

7. COMMENT: REV. SULLIVAN'S VISIT HERE RECEIVED EXTENSIVE RADIO AND PRESS COVERAGE AND MADE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN DEMONSTRATING U.S. INTEREST IN BOTSWANA'S DEVELOPMENT. IN MY VIEW, OICI CENTER WOULD ADD NEW DIMENSIONS TO OUR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO BROADEN AND DEEPEN COOPERATION WITH BOTSWANA IN AID, ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL FIELDS. REV. SULLIVAN'S OICI PLANS AND PROGRAMS FOR BOTSWANA SHOULD RECEIVE FULL USG SUPPORT.

BOLEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GABORO00803
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750212-0881
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750635/aaaabgcr.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 129545
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REV. LEON SULLIVAN'S VISIT TO BOTSWANA
TAGS: OVIP, (SULLIVAN, LEON H)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006